Glossary

Account Management: The obtaining and managing of Log On IDs and passwords for users, which controls access levels to data in EIMS.

Achievement Level Report: A report that shows achievement levels by reporting level (for all divisions, a particular division, all schools in a division, or a particular school), by subject, grade and year. This report is not broken down into sub-groups.

Achievement Level Sub-Group Report: A report that shows achievement levels by reporting level (for all divisions, a particular division, all schools in a division, or a particular school), by subject, grade and year. This report is broken down into ONE sub-group.

Approve button: A command button in EIMS that approves the file for storage in the database.

Assessment file: A file containing student test results.

Awaiting Approval: A status listing in EIMS File Management when a file is waiting for user approval before it can be stored permanently in the EIMS database.

Data Transformation System (DTS): The staging database where data is stored prior to being stored in the EIMS database.

Decision Support System (DSS): Advanced level tools for querying the EIMS database for reporting purposes. The DSS allows users to manipulate the returned data in order to present the data in different, meaningful ways.

Demographic file: A file containing student demographic information.

Disaggregation Report: A report that shows achievement levels by reporting level (for all divisions, a particular division, all schools in a division, or a particular school), by subject, grade and year. This report is broken down into as many as three sub-groups.

EIMS: Educational Information Management System

EIMS Release: A new version of EIMS that may include fixes, improvements, and changes to the functionality or look of the system.

File Errors: A status listing in EIMS File Management when a file has formatting errors. The standard process is for the user to fix the file locally, reject the file in error in EIMS, and then resubmit the corrected file.

File Management: The process of managing files that have been submitted to PEM and loaded into EIMS. Once loaded, users must check the status of their files to see what action is required. Files may have a status of "In Progress," "File Errors," "Needs Resolution," "Awaiting Approval," or "Stored Successfully."

File Resolution: The process of resolving all students within a file that is in the status of Needs Resolution.

FTP file submission: The process of sending a demographic file to PEM using their FTP (file transfer protocol) website.

Imported student: A student record that is uploaded into EIMS and compared to all the existing student records to determine if there is a match.

Longitudinal Report: A report that shows achievement levels for an individual student, by subject, grade and year. Specific tests are listed.

Match/Merge: The "behind the scenes" process by which EIMS compares new student records to existing records in the entire database to determine if records match. Matching records are merged, with new data overwriting older data in most cases.

Match Weight Percentage: A percentage weight assigned to a data item. Match weight percentages are totaled and records falling within certain thresholds will need to be resolved.

Matching Thresholds: A minimum and maximum matching percentage range set for determining if enough characteristics of two student records are the same, indicating that the two student records, in fact, belong to the same student. If two student records match at or above the maximum threshold, the records are merged. If the two records match at or below the minimum threshold, the two records are not merged. If the records match at a percentage in between the minimum and maximum levels, student resolution must occur.

Matching Weights System: A weighting system that is continually being analyzed and adjusted for optimal results. This is the system that configures the data item match weight on student records.

NCLB Target Comparison Report: A report which shows achievement levels by reporting level (for all divisions, a particular division, all schools in a division, or a particular school), by subject, grade and year and compares these levels to pre-determined targets.

NCLB Target Comparison Sub-Group Report: A report which shows achievement levels by reporting level (for all divisions, a particular division, all schools in a division, or a particular school), by subject, grade and year and compares these levels to pre-determined targets. This report is broken down by ONE sub-group.

New Student button: A command button in EIMS that will create a new EIMS record for the imported student and assign a state Testing ID.

PEM: Pearson Educational Measurement, the company that built and manages the EIMS system.

Possible Match: An existing student record in EIMS that may be a match to an imported student record.

Reject button: A command button in EIMS that deletes the file. Typically, the file must be resubmitted.

Resolution: The process of correcting errors (error resolution) or determining if two or more particular student records match or not (student resolution).

Same Student button: A command button in EIMS that will merge the two displayed student records—the imported student record and the existing student record (possible match record).

Student Information System (SIS): The local level student information system.

Student Resolution: The process in which an individual examines two student records to determine if the records belong to the same student or not.

Testing Identifier (State Testing ID): A unique number randomly assigned to each student in the state of Virginia. The Testing ID is used to track a student's assessment results within the state for a period of up to twenty years.

Validation Errors: A descriptive listing of the formatting errors contained in a file. The list will state what the error is and on which line each error occurred.